

Message Text

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67

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07

H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01

SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 DRC-01 /133 W

----- 003161

R 131723Z MAY 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 780

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

UNCLAS BRUSSELS 3013

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, BE, CG

SUBJECT: RENUNCIATION OF BELGIAN-ZAIRIAN TREATY OF
FRIENDSHIP

REF: A. KINSHASA 4112 (NOTAL)

B. BRUSSELS 2774 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY. GOB REACTED TO ZAIRIAN RENUNCIATION OF
BELGIAN-ZAIRIAN TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP BY ISSUING COMMUNIQUE
EXPRESSING REGRET OVER ACTION BUT DECLARING BELGIAN
DETERMINATION TO PROTECT BELGAIN INTERESTS IN ZAIRE.
COMMUNIQUE FURTHER NOTES THAT WHILE GOB WILL EXAMINE
POSSIBLE EFFECTS OF TREATY RENUNCIATION ON COOPERATION
WITH ZAINE, IT STANDS READY TO RESOLVE DIFFERENCES
THROUGH DIALOGUE. FOREIGN MINISTRY ALSO RELEASED TEXT
OF GOB'S MAY 8 MESSAGE TO MOBUTU, WHICH GOZ HAD FOUND
INSUFFICIENT TO FORESTALL RENUNCIATION OF TREATY. MESSAGE
REVIEWED BELGIAN POSITION ON CHOME BOOK AND MADE STRONG
APPEAL FOR BELGIAN- ZAIRIAN COOPERATION. END SUMMARY.

2. BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY ISSUED COMMUNIQUE MAY 10

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REGRETING ZAIRIAN GOVERNMENT'S RENUNCIATION OF TREATY

OF FRIENDSHIP WITHBELGIUM (REF A). EXPRESSING SURPRISE THAT GOZ HAD LINKED ITS ACTION TO LACK OF OFFICIAL BELGIAN REACTION TO CIRCULATION OF CHOME BOOK, COMMUNIQUE NOTES THAT GOB HAD EXPRESSED ITS REGRET OVER BOOK AND HAD "DEPLORED LACK OF SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY OF ITS AUTHOR." ANY OTHER REACTION, COMMUNIQUE , WOULD HAVE BEEN CONTRARY TO BELGIAN JURISPRUDENCE AND TO FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION. COMMUNIQUE ALSO DECLARES THAT GOB IS DETERMINED TO SAFEGUARD INTERESTS OF ITS CITIZENS IN ZAIRE AND WILL EXAMINE EFFECT OF GOZ'S DECISION ON BELGIAN-ZAIRIAN COOPERATION. IT NOTES FURTHER THAT BELGIUM WOULD FAIL TO UNDERSTAND IF ZAIRE ADOPTED DISCRIMINATORY ATTITUDE TOWARD IT BUT STANDS READY TO RESOLVE DIFFERENCES THROUGH DIALOGUE.

3. FOREIGN MINISTRY ALSO RELEASED TEXT OF MESSAGE SENT MAY 8 BY PRIME MINISTER TINDEMANS AND FOREIGN MINISTER VAN ELSLANDE TO PRESIDENT MOBUTU (REF B). MESSAGE DECLARES GOB'S DESIRE THAT RELATIONS WITH ZAIRE DEVELOP IN SPIRIT OF FRIENDSHIP, COOPERATION, AND MUTUAL RESPECT AND EXPRESSES UNDERSTANDING OF AUTHENTICITY POLICY AND MEASURES TO ASSURE ZAIRE'S CONTROL OF ITS OWN RESOURCES. MESSAGE THEN NOTES GOB'S INTENTION TO IMPROVE TECHNICAL COOPERATION, ENCOURAGE BELGIAN INVESTMENT IN ZAIRE, AND PARTICIPATE FURTHER IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF ZAIRE. MESSAGE DISSOCIATES GOB FROM CHOME BOOK AND NOTES THAT GOB DID NOT FEEL THAT IT COULD TAKE CHOME TO TRIAL BECAUSE LEGAL AUTHORITIES WERE CONVINCED COURTS WOULD NOT UP-HOLD PROSECUTION. MESSAGE OBSERVES THAT FEAR OF RESTRICTION FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION HAS LED BELGIAN JUDICIARY TO TOLERATE "EXCESSIVE DECLARATIONS" AND HAS LIMITED LEGAL RESTRAINTS THAT CAN BE PLACED ON PUBLICATIONS.

4. REITERATING BELGIAN DESIRE FOR RELATIONSHIP OF FRIENDSHIP AND CONFIDENCE, TINDEMANS AND VAN ELSLANDE EXPRESS NEED TO CREATE CONDITIONS FOR DIALOGUE. TO PROMOTE THOSE CONDITIONS AGREEMENT HAS BEEN REQUESTED FOR CHARLES KERREMANS (PRESENT AMBASSADOR TO INDIA) TO BECOME NEW BELGIAN AMBASSADOR TO ZAIRE. BELGIAN LEADERS PROPOSE THAT TWO GOVERNMENTS JOINTLY UNDERTAKE BY END OF SEPTEMBER GLOBAL EXAMINATION UNCLASSIFIED

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OF ALL ASPECTS OF RELATIONS, INCLUDING NOVEMBER 30 NATIONALIZATION MEASURES, AND ADOPT PERMANENT ARRANGEMENTS FOR COOPERATION.

5. TEXT OF COMMUNIQUE AND MESSAGE BY POUCH TO AF/C AND KINSHASA. BOOCHEVER

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NNN

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